

1<sup>st</sup> BATTALION  
THE ROYAL NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILIERS



St. George's Day  
1966

*Trooping the Colours*



## HISTORICAL NOTES

### ST. GEORGE'S DAY, APRIL 23rd

The badge of St. George killing the Dragon and the motto "Quo Fata Vocant" are said to have been granted to the Regiment either on its conversion from an Irish Regiment in 1675 or on its incorporation in the British Army in 1685. Since that time, St. George has been considered as its Patron Saint and the Colours have been trooped and roses worn on St. George's Day. On St. George's Day 1951 the First Battalion was in Korea and engaged in the Battle of the Imjin. Throughout the battle all members of the Battalion wore the traditional red and white roses.

The Parade is taken by the Second-in-Command of the Battalion and is a regimental parade, both Colours being trooped. After the troop the Battalion marches past and the salute is taken by the senior officer of the Regiment present. In the case of the Battalion serving at home this is normally the Colonel of the Regiment, and in the case of the Battalion serving overseas, the Battalion Commander. After the march past the line is reformed, and if the Sovereign or the Sovereign's representative or a General Officer is present the Battalion Commander takes over the parade and the Battalion advances in review order and gives a Royal or General Salute, followed by a Royal Salute as the Colours march off.

The Regiment was raised as an Irish Regiment of the English Brigade in the Dutch service in 1674 under its Colonel, Daniel O'Brien, Viscount Clare who later resigned and fought under King James at the Battle of the Boyne. On the accession of William, Prince of Orange, to the English throne in 1685 the Regiment was placed on the English establishment and ranked as the 5th Regiment of Foot under the command of Sir John Fenwick of Northumberland. It fought for King William at the Battle of the Boyne.

In 1768 the Colonelcy of the Regiment was conferred on Hugh, Earl Percy, later Duke of Northumberland. On his giving up command sixteen years later, in compliment to him, the Regiment received the name of "The Northumberland Regiment" and was consequently one of the earliest regiments to have a direct connection with a County.

The red and white feather plume or hackle, worn with the red on top, is distinctive to the Regiment and commemorates the conduct of the Regiment at the battle of St. Lucia, 1778. For many years after St. Lucia the Regiment wore the white plume taken from the enemy dead after the battle. In 1824 Royal approval was given to the continuance of this custom but in 1829, when a white plume was established for the whole of the Infantry of the Line, the Regiment was specially authorised to wear a red and white plume, red uppermost.

In 1836 the Regiment was granted the honour of being equipped as Fusiliers and was then called the "Fifth Regiment of Foot" or "Northumberland Fusiliers". This was in belated recognition of the Regiment's conduct at the Battle of Wilhelmstahl fought on 24th June, 1762 at which the Regiment took prisoner over twice its own number of men and captured the Colours of the Grenadiers of France. Since that day a third Colour, "The Drummer's Colour", has been carried. No other Regiment carries three Colours.

In 1935 the Regiment was granted the title "Royal" and officially designated "The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers". Unofficially the Regiment is still often referred to by its old name "The Fifth Fusiliers".



# PROGRAMME OF MUSIC AND PARADE

## Assembly Music

Band and Drums

The Colours, in charge of two Colour Sergeants with Double Sentries, are placed in front of the left of the line.

## Forming Up March

"The Standard of St. George"

Band

The Battalion is formed up by the Regimental Sergeant Major into four Companies each commanded by a Warrant Officer, marched on to the Parade Ground and formed into line. No. 1 Company is Escort for the Colours. The Band and Drums are formed up in front of the right and left of the line facing inwards, with the Drummer's Colour in front of the Drums.

The Regimental Sergeant Major hands over the Parade to the Adjutant.

Warrant Officers and Non Commissioned Officers Commanding Companies to the front.

## March

"Cappy"

Drums and Fifes

Officers fall in

## The Assembly

"Drummers' Call"

Drums and Fifes

## Quick March

"The Grand Duchess"

Drums and Fifes

The Adjutant hands over the Parade to the senior Major.

The Officers take post and join their Companies.

## Slow March

"Scipio"

Band and Drums

Officers Commanding Companies take over and inspect their Companies.

Troop by the Band and Drums.

## Slow Troop

"St. George"

Band and Drums

## Quick Troop

"The Old and Bold"

Band and Drums

On the sounding of the "Drummers' Call" the Lieutenant in Command of No. 2 Company takes over the Escort for the Colours from the Captain in Command of No. 1 Company. No. 1 Company with the Band and Drums in front move out to take over the Colours.

## Escort for the Colours "The British Grenadiers"

Band and Drums

The Subalterns take the Colours which are saluted by the Escort.

"God Save The Queen"

Band and Drums

The Escort having taken over the Colours proceeds to Troop them through the ranks.

## Slow March

"The Grenadier's March"

Band and Drums

The Escort and Colours arrive at their place in the line.

## March

"Cappy"

Drums and Fifes

"Blaydon Races"

## March Past

"The British Grenadiers"  
and "Quarter Deck"

Band and Drums

The Battalion and Colours form line for the Advance in Review Order.

The Senior Major hands over the Parade to the Commanding Officer.

## Advance in Review Order "The British Grenadiers"

Band and Drums

## General Salute

The Colours are marched off the Parade Ground and Lodged in Form.

## Quick March

"God Save The Queen"

Band

## Salute

"Scots"

Drums and Fifes

## Quick March

"The Grenadier's March"

Drums and Fifes

## Quick March

"Soldier's Joy"

Drums and Fifes

"Geordie Hinny"

Drums and Fifes

The Battalion marches off Parade.

## Dispersal March

"National Emblem"

Band



*[Handwritten signature]*

## OFFICERS and OTHER RANKS taking part in the Parade

Commanding Officer	Lieutenant Colonel R.E. Blenkinsop
Second-in-Command	Major J.P. Baxter
Adjutant	Captain A.F.A. Parsons
No. 1 (Colour) Company	Captain R.P.T. Earle
No. 2 Company	Lieutenant C.D. Robertson
No. 3 Company	Lieutenant D. Cruicoshank
No. 4 Company	Lieutenant G.M. Youll
Queen's Colour	Second Lieutenant G.M. Millar
Regimental Colour	Second Lieutenant D. Daniels
Drummer's Colour	Fusilier M. Webster
Regimental Sergeant Major	R.S.M. R. Forrest
Bandmaster	Mr. J. Pope, ARCM
Drum Major	Drum Major T. Hood

*[Handwritten signatures: D. Archibald, J. Pope, M. Webster]*

## NOTES FOR SPECTATORS

1. Spectators are asked to stand:
  - (a) When the National Anthem is played after the Colour Officers have taken over the Colours, and stand facing the Escort to the Colours.
  - (b) As the Colours are trooped through the ranks when the Colours pass opposite their position in the stands.
  - (c) When the Colours pass along the line of the stands during the March Past.
  - (d) When the National Anthem is played as the Colours leave under escort, and until the Colours have passed the front of the spectators.
2. Spectators are asked to stay in their seats until the Colours have been lodged in the Officers Mess, and Major General R.E.T. St. John CB, MC, Colonel of the Regiment, has left the stand.



# BATTLE HONOURS

Quebec 1759

Mons

Ypres, 1914-15-17-18

Somme 1916-18

Selle

Struma

Rhineland

Dunkirk 1940

Cauldron

Defence Of Tobruk

Salerno

Mar

St. Julien

Scarpe, 191

Piave

Ma

Sidi Barrani

Caen

El Alamein

Tobruk 1941

Cassino II

## Segmental Colours

Wilhelmshl

Belica

Corunna

Ciuda Rodrigo

Salamanca

Nivelle

Toulouse

Lucknow

Khartoum

South Africa 1899-1902

Imjin

St. Lucia, 1778

Vimiera

Busaco

Badajos

Victoria

Orbes

Peninsula

Afghanistan 1878-80

Modder River

Korea 1950-53